



Federal Initiatives suggested by the Housing Coordinating Team of Montana

The Department of Commerce and the Montana Board of Housing created the Housing Coordinating Team (HCT) to aid in the coordination and enhancement of program and agency efforts, which are divided amongst a variety of agencies and organizations. It has proven to be a group whose meetings remain informal, yet many collaborative, productive efforts have resulted.

The members represent a broad range of state and federal housing programs, community support agencies, public housing authorities, lenders, realtors, builders, economic development groups, city and county planners, and nonprofit organizations; virtually the entire spectrum of those who finance, regulate or provide housing and related services.

The following are a list of the federal initiatives that are constantly and consistently mentioned during Housing Coordinating Team discussions as those that could have a positive impact on the efforts to provide affordable housing in Montana:

- Repeal MRB Ten Year Rule
- Increase Housing Bond and Credit caps
- Increase HOME funding without set-aside's or restrictions
- Provide funding for Section 8 adequate to fund existing units, as well as new units
- Exempt Housing Bond and Housing Credit investments from the AMT
- Enact changes to Housing Bond, Housing Credit, HOME and Section 8 to increase flexibility and improve efficiency of program
- Aggressive GSE affordable housing goals
- State administered GSE-financed affordable housing grant fund
- Creation of new affordable housing programs, such as a state administered National Affordable Housing Trust Fund
- Increase CDBG Funding
- Adequately fund mobile home replacement initiatives including funding HUD/FHA for long term mortgage insurance for mobile homes
- Support the Bring America Home Act
- Exempt CHDOs from FHA requirements regarding "flipping" of properties
- Increase McKinny Funding & Flexibility
- Increase Public Housing Operating fund and full 100% funding of that program
- Increase Capital Fund funding for the Public Housing Program
- Improve delivery and flexibility of federal funds to the local community
- Reverse Public Housing Disinvestment
- Make Asset Management Manageable
- Reauthorize HOPE VI and Homeless Assistance Grants
- Inmate Re-entry Housing

